



RESPONSE UNDER 37.052 LPP
EXTENDED RESPONSE
PENDING GROUP 1634

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Confirmation No. 2860**
Shunichi SHIOZAWA et al. : Docket No. 2001_1298A
Serial No. 09/936,989 : Group Art Unit 1634
Filed October 30, 2001 : Examiner C. Myers

RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS GENE AND METHOD
FOR DIAGNOSING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated November 27, 2002, the time for responding thereto being extended for one month in accordance with a petition for extension submitted concurrently herewith, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel without prejudice the nonelected claims 4-8, 10-11 and 15-18.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1. (Twice Amended) A cDNA of a disease gene for rheumatoid arthritis, which comprises the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 3. (Thrice Amended) A DNA fragment of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said DNA fragment comprises at least nucleotides 2693 to 2702 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 12. (Amended) A polynucleotide, comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 13. (Amended) A polynucleotide, consisting of a fragment of SEQ ID NO: 1, wherein said polynucleotide comprises at least nucleotides 2693 to 2702 of SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 14. (Amended) The polynucleotide according to claim 13, which consists of nucleotides 2693 to 2702 of SEQ ID NO: 1.